

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A negative electrode for a non-aqueous secondary cell comprising graphite, carbon black and an aqueous binder, wherein said carbon black ~~comprises~~ consists essentially of particles having an aspect ratio of 1.0 to 5.0 and a largest particle size of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or less, wherein said negative electrode has a density of at least 1.50  $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ , wherein said aqueous binder comprises styrene-butadiene rubber and carboxymethylcellulose.

2. (Previously presented) The negative electrode according to claim 1, wherein said graphite has an average particle size of from 15 to 30  $\mu\text{m}$ , and at least 10% by weight of said carbon black particles, based on the total weight of the carbon black, has said aspect ratio of 1.0 to 5.0 and said largest particle size of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

3. (Previously presented) The negative electrode according to claim 1, wherein said graphite has an average particle size of from 15 to 30  $\mu\text{m}$ , and at least 60% by weight of said carbon black particles, based on the total weight of the carbon black, has said aspect ratio of 1.0 to 5.0 and a largest particle size of 1  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

4. (Original) The negative electrode according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein said carbon black is present in an amount of from 0.1 % to 3.0 % by weight based on a final solids content of a negative electrode coating on said negative electrode.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The negative electrode according to claim 1, wherein said negative electrode has a density of at least  $1.60 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , and said graphite has a specific surface area of at least  $2.5 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$  and a crystal spacing  $d_{002}$  of  $0.3370 \text{ nm}$  or less.

7. (Currently Amended) A non-aqueous secondary cell comprising a positive electrode, a negative electrode and a non-aqueous electrolyte, wherein said negative electrode comprises graphite, carbon black ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of particles having an aspect ratio of 1.0 to 5.0 and a largest particle size of  $10 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  or less, and an aqueous binder, wherein said negative electrode has a density of at least  $1.50 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , wherein said aqueous binder comprises styrene-butadiene rubber and carboxymethylcellulose.

8. (Previously presented) The non-aqueous secondary cell according to claim 7, wherein said graphite has an average particle size of from  $15$  to  $30 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ , and at least 10% by weight of said carbon black particles, based on the total weight of the carbon black, has said aspect ratio of 1.0 to 5.0 and said largest particle size of  $10 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  or less.

9. (Original) The non-aqueous secondary cell according to any one of claims 7 and 8, wherein said carbon black is present in an amount of from 0.1 % to 3.0 % by weight based on a final solids content of a negative electrode coating on said negative electrode.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) The non-aqueous secondary cell according to claim 7, wherein said negative electrode has a density of at least  $1.60 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , and said graphite has a specific surface area of at least  $2.5 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$  and a crystal spacing  $d_{002}$  of  $0.3370 \text{ nm}$  or less.

12. (Currently amended) A method for producing a negative electrode for a non-aqueous secondary cell comprising the steps of:

mixing graphite, carbon black ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of particles having an aspect ratio of 1.0 to 5.0 and a largest particle size of  $10 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  or less, and an aqueous mixed binder comprising styrene-butadiene rubber and carboxymethylcellulose to prepare a negative electrode coating,

applying the negative electrode coating on a substrate of the negative electrode,

drying the applied negative electrode coating, and

press-forming the coating.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein said negative electrode has a density of at least  $1.60 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , and said graphite has a specific surface area of at least  $2.5 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$  and a crystal spacing  $d_{002}$  of  $0.3370 \text{ nm}$  or less.

16. **(Currently amended)** An electronic device comprising a non-aqueous secondary cell which comprises a positive electrode, a negative electrode and a non-aqueous electrolyte, wherein said negative electrode comprises graphite, carbon black ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of particles having an aspect ratio of 1.0 to 5.0 and a largest particle size of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or less, and an aqueous binder, wherein said negative electrode has a density of at least 1.50  $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ .

17. **(Currently Amended)** The electronic device according to claim 16, wherein said graphite has an average particle size of from 15 to 30  $\mu\text{m}$ , ~~and at least 10% by weight of said carbon black particles, based on the total weight of the carbon black, has said aspect ratio of 1.0 to 5.0 and said largest particle size of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or less,~~ wherein said aqueous binder comprises styrene-butadiene rubber and carboxymethylcellulose.

18. **(Original)** The electronic device according to any one of claims 16 and 17, wherein said carbon black is present in an amount of from 0.1 % to 3.0 % by weight based on a final solids content of a negative electrode coating on said negative electrode.

19. **(Canceled)**

20. **(Original)** The electronic device according to claim 16, wherein said negative electrode has a density of at least 1.60  $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ , and said graphite has a specific surface area of at least 2.5  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$  and a crystal spacing  $d_{002}$  of 0.3370 nm or less.